

Bias/Hate Crimes

Bias is to be reported **only if** the investigation reveals sufficient objective facts to lead a reasonable and prudent person to conclude that the offender's action are motivated, in whole or part, by bias.

- Enter a bias (data element 18) when a crime is committed based on the victim's race, religion, ethnic/national origin, sexual orientation or disability group.
- A bias usually occurs when the victim type is "I" or "P" for Individual. If your victim type is coded differently, check the bias to ensure it does exist.
- Incidents involving "hate-crime victim retaliation" should not be classified as a "hate crime".

Codes

- "00" is used when no bias is involved.
- "88" is used rarely, and only if a bias is evident but does not fall within codes 11-62 such as bias against a homeless person. If this occurs, please contact your UCR representative to inform them of the bias.

Things to consider

- Does the victim perceive the action to be hate motivated?
- Could there be any other type of motivation for crime? Is the victim new to neighborhood?
- Were any hate bias remarks made by offender or any offensive symbols, words, or other evidence at the crime scene?
- Is there a significant holiday or date for the victim or offender's group?
- Are the victim and offender of different race, religion, ethnic origin, or sexual-orientation?
- Was the offender previously involved in a hate crime or a member of a hate group? Is the victim involved in activities of a specific group?